

RUTGERS UNIVERISTY NEWARK

Summer Study Abroad Program in Turkey

June 24-July 12, 2024

Migration and Displacement at the Crossroads of Europe and Asia

Faculty: Dr. Leyla Amzi-Erdogdular, Dr. Tim Raphael

Description

This summer study abroad program will take place in Turkey, in the cities of Istanbul and Bursa. The program will focus on the history and contemporary impact of migration and forced displacement at the intersection of two continents. Students will learn about Istanbul and its position as a bridge and a crossroads between Asia and Europe. We will visit and study the sites and monuments that testify to its rich history and lay the basis for its contemporary cosmopolitanism. During our time in Istanbul, students will learn about Istanbul's significance as an imperial capital for over a millennium and a half, and a modern global city. These layers of ancient and modern, where people and ideas interconnect and where diverse cultures thrive and survive, will allow students to explore select topics of focus including modernity, identity, and migration. In Bursa, building on what they have learned in Istanbul, students will conduct service-learning projects with Syrian refugee students at the Syrien Hilfe community center. Through peer-to-peer engagement and co-learning opportunities with refugee students, Rutgers students will gain firsthand understanding of the Syrian refugee experience in Turkey, the aspirations of refugee youth, and the challenges and obstacles they face.

Assessment

Daily blog posts – Students will be required to reflect on the lectures, site visits, and experiential components of the program while preparing to identify a final paper or project topic.

Site presentations – individually or in groups students will research and prepare a presentation on one of the historic sites we visit.

Final paper or project – students will have the option of completing a paper utilizing the knowledge gained from the study abroad experience OR develop a strategic plan for addressing the refugee issues/needs students identify during the service-learning component of the program (options include designing a post-abroad peer mentoring program, translation and interpreting training, English language training, etc.).

Grading

Blog Posts – 20%

Site Presentations – 20%

Final Paper/Project – 40%

Attendance, Participation, Site Behavior – 20%

Schedule

ISTANBUL



June 24

Flight to Istanbul, Turkey

June 25 **Orientation**

Arrival, airport transfer, housing

Introduction meeting

Know your neighborhood

Welcome Dinner

June 26 **Byzantine Istanbul**

Morning: Byzantium Lecture

Afternoon: Ayasofya, underground cistern visits

Reading: Primary source, *Capture of Constantinople* by Aşıkpaşazade

June 27 **Lay of the Land - Bosphorus: the strait, bridges, city walls, and forts**

Morning: Bosphorus tour and site lecture

Afternoon: Galata: synagogue & "Arab" mosque visit

Reading:

June 28 **The Sublime State**

Morning: Topkapi Palace visit and lecture

Afternoon: Sultanahmet and Sirkeci port, Spice Bazaar

Reading:

June 29 **The People That Made the City**

Morning: Lecture on Ottoman music

Afternoon: Suleymaniye complex, neighborhood

Reading: Baki Tezcan, "Ethnicity, race, religion and social class: Ottoman markers of difference" in Christine Woodhead, ed., *The Ottoman World*, p. 159-70.

OHPodcast - *Social Histories of Ottoman Istanbul* with Ebru Boyar & Kate Fleet

June 30 **Migrants at Crossroads**

Morning: Lecture on Ottoman Migration

Afternoon:

Reading: Dawn Chatty, Expulsions; Sarah Shields, "The Greek-Turkish Population Exchange; + primary documents

July 1 **Syrian Migration to Turkey**

Morning: Guest Lecture/conversation on Syrian migration to Turkey

Afternoon: FREE AFTERNOON

Readings: Chatty, *Syria: The Making and Unmaking of a Refugee State*; Documentary: Matthew Cassel and Aboud Shalhoub, "The Journey from Syria" (2016)

Optional: Peter Gleick, "Water, Drought, Climate Change, and Conflict in Syria" *Weather, Climate, and Society* 6:3 (2014): 331-340.

BURSA



July 2

FREE MORNING

AFTERNOON FERRY TO BURSA

Know your neighborhood tour

July 3

Morning: site visits in Bursa

4pm-9pm

Introduction to Syrian students at Syrien Hilfe community center

Story Exchange

Welcome Dinner with Syrian students

July 4

Morning: site visit in Bursa

4pm-8pm: College preparation and application workshop with Syrian students

July 5

Morning: site visit in Bursa

4pm-8pm Visual Storytelling Workshop with Syrian students

July 6

Morning: Visual storytelling critique

Afternoon: Syrian students show Rutgers student their neighborhood and community and continue photographing

July 7

Morning: Visual Storytelling presentations

Afternoon: Picnic in the mountains or at [Soğanlı Botanik Parkı](#)

FREE EVENING

July 8

Morning: FERRY TO ISTANBUL

FREE AFTERNOON

July 9

Group trip

Farewell Dinner

July 10

Return To US